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OFFICIAL PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re: Patent application of : Group Art Unit:
Bruce L. Bruso : 3677
Serial No.: 09/841,908 : Examiner:
 : Katherine W. Mitchell
Filed: April 25, 2001 : Attorney Docket No.:
 : 9079-6 (151783)
For: METHOD OF IN SITU SOIL REMEDIATION
FOR VOLATILE ORGANIC CONTAMINANTS

COMMUNICATION ACCOMPANYING RCE AND PETITION FOR FURTHER EXTENSION OF TIME

Via facsimile to (703) 872-9306

Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This communication and the accompanying Request for Continued Examination ("RCE") supplement the Applicant's Response to the Fourth Office Action, which was filed February 17, 2004. This submission follows a telephone discussion yesterday between the Examiner and the Applicant's undersigned attorney. The courtesy extended by the Examiner during the discussion is appreciated.

CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION	
I hereby certify that this correspondence, along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed, is being facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date indicated below.	
BY	<u>Jennifer R. Hanna</u>
DATE:	<u>3/17/04</u>

PHIP375196\1

It was noted during the discussion that the amendments and remarks included in the Response to the Fourth Office Action have not yet been fully considered. However, based upon the Examiner's preliminary review, it was noted that the amendments could be considered to raise new issues, leaving open the possibility that the Response to the Fourth Office Action may not be entered. For the reasons set forth in the Response, the Applicant respectfully contends that the amendments do not raise new substantive issues. However, the accompanying RCE is being submitted to guarantee entry of the Response to the Fourth Office Action as a matter of right.

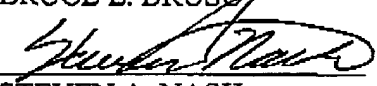
Please consider this to be a request for a three-month extension of time to file a response to the Office Action mailed September 17, 2003. The extension resets the deadline for response to March 17, 2004. The fee for a two-month extension of time was paid with the Response filed on February 17, 2004. Authorization is provided to charge the additional extension fee of \$265.00, the RCE fee of \$385.00 and any additional fees that are found to be due to Deposit Account No. 50-0573. Authorization is provided to credit any overpayment to the same deposit account.

It is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. However, if after full consideration of the Response to the Fourth Office Action, the Examiner believes that further amendments are required or any other matters warrant attention, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned attorney prior to issuance of another Office Action.

Respectfully submitted,

BRUCE L. BRUSO

BY:


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